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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 16, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended December 11 totaled an estimated 15.1 billion ton-miles, 11.8 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 50 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 771.0 billion ton-miles, 12.8 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended December 11 totaled 343,976 cars, 15.4 percent below 1981, but 2.3 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 22.8 percent in the East, 12.3 percent in the South, and 11.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 18 of the 21 commodity groups were down. Eleven of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended December 4 totaled an estimated 39,282 cars, up 15.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 68,545 trailers and/or containers, 12.8 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 49 weeks of the year was 1,809,486 cars, 9.5 percent higher than last year, and 3,184,875 trailers and/or containers, up 7.2 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 12/11/82:

	Loadings in Week ended December 11, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	20,962	D	3,417	14.0	D	3,075	12.8
Other farm products	5,855	I	172	3.0	D	241	4.0
Metallic ores	13,880	D	9,965	41.8	I	3,042	28.1
Coal	103,960	D	23,054	18.2	I	7,711	8.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,913	D	1,941	19.7	D	495	5.9
Nonmetallic minerals	10,361	D	395	3.7	I	165	1.6
Grain mill products	12,164	D	936	7.1	I	325	2.7
Food and kindred products	12,949	D	1,269	8.9	I	14	0.1
Primary forest products	14,208	D	4,521	24.1	I	107	0.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,058	I	95	1.6	D	64	1.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,041	D	2,865	16.0	D	1,397	8.5
Chemicals and allied products	20,005	D	2,400	10.7	D	1,559	7.2
Petroleum products	4,520	D	554	10.9	D	25	0.6
Stone, clay and glass products	8,676	D	2,623	23.2	D	696	7.4
Coke	3,695	D	2,094	36.2	D	161	4.2
Metals and products	6,295	D	5,601	47.1	D	890	12.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,594	D	469	3.1	I	1,401	10.6
Waste and scrap materials	6,892	D	2,892	29.6	I	377	5.8
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,408	D	1,910	20.5	I	384	5.5
All other carloads	48,350	I	4,242	9.6	I	2,770	6.1
LCL traffic	190	D	74	28.0	I	42	28.4
Total Cars Loaded	343,976	D	62,471	15.4	I	7,735	2.3
Corresponding week of 1981	406,447						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (50 weeks)	17,951,033	20,933,441	D 14.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
49 Weeks cumulative	755.9	867.1	D 12.8
Week ended December 11	15.1	17.1	D 11.8
50 Weeks cumulative	771.0	884.2	D 12.8

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